Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-20 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 NEAE-00 L-03 /120 W 004549

P R 191230Z SEP 73 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5145 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR, AF, UN

SUBJ: NARCOTICS - AFGHANISTAN

REF: STATE 183867 (NOTAL)

- 1. ADCM AND POLOFF HAD LONG DISCUSSION WITH OSMAN (UN OFFICIAL CURRENTLY IN KABUL) AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 19 CONCERNING CURRENT SITUATION NARCOTICS PICTURE. PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH MFA OFFICIALS MORNING SEPTEMBER 19 POSTPONED 24 HOURS THEIR REQUEST. REFTEL DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION AND ONLY RECEIVED SEPT 19. WE PREFER AWAIT DISCUSSIONS WITH AFGHANS SEPT. 20 BEFORE RESPONDING COMPLETELY TO QUESTIONS RAISED: HOWEVER, CONVERSATION WITH OSMAN INTER ALIA COVERS SOME QUESTIONS RAISED THEREIN.
- 2. OSMAN STATED THAT AFGHAN UN ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT NOT YET SIGNED BECAUSE QUESTION HAS ARISEN OVER OFFICE SPACE FOR NEW NARCOTICS UNIT. MINISTRY HAS REQUESTED UN FUND AMOUNT NEEDED (ESTIMATED \$30-40,000) TO COMPLETE FIRST FLOOR ON PARTIALLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDING ON MININT COMPOUND. IN CABLE RECEIVED SEPT 19, UN HAS REFUSED PAY TOTAL COST AND HAS INSTRUCTED OSMAN NEGOTIATE EQUITABLE DIVISION WITH AFGHANS. OSMAN CONFIDENT THIS CAN BE DONE SOON AND HOPES DEPART KABUL SEPTEMBER 23 FOR GENEVA; HOWEVER, HE WILL DELAY DEPARTURE IF AGREEMENT NOT REACHED BY CONFIDENTIAL

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THEN. OSMAN PROMISED CONTACT US PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE AND LET US

KNOW IF AND WHEN AGREEMENT SIGNED.

- 3. OSMAN REFLECTED CURRENT GOA THINKING REGARDING NARCOTICS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN AFGHANISTAN, I.E., PIECEMEAL EFFORT PROPOSED INITIAL UN REPORT IS TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND 20-YEAR PROGRAM FOR WHOLE COUNTRY PRECEDED BY EXTENSIVE PROVINCIAL WIDE (AS OPPOSED TO SMALL PILOT AREA) SURVEYS OF BADAKHSHAN AND NANGARHAR ARE NECESSARY. HE QUOTED GOA AS DESIRING COMPLETION SUCH SURVEYS PRIOR CONVENING GENEVA MEETING OF POTENTIAL DONORS. HE ALSO NOTED AFGHAN ESTIMATE OF \$500 MILLION FOR 20-YEAR PROGRAM. HE CONFIRMED THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED TO DIVORCE ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND ENFORCEMENT FOR TIME BEING.
- 4. IN THIS CONNECTION, OSMAN SAID AFGHANS (A) NOW INDICATE NOT ONLY WILLINGNESS BUT ALMOST EAGERNESS TO JOIN INTERPOL AND (B) HAVE AGREED FORM SPECIAL NARCOTICS UNIT AS 7TH SECTION OF CID POLICE ORGANIZATION. WHILE DETAILS NOT WORKED OUT YET, SECTION WOULD PROBABLY REPORT TO CID CHIEF AND WOULD CONSIST OF 20-25 PERSONNEL DIVIDED INTO FOUR SUB-UNITS. THIS SECTION WILL NOT BE SET UP UNTIL AGREEMENT BETWEEN UN AND GOA ON INITIAL ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REACHED. PERSONNEL SO ASSIGNED WOULD BE DRAWN PRIMARILY (PROBABLY EXCLUSIVELY) FROM ITS POLICE WHO WERE TRAINED AT UN SEMINAR THIS SUMMER (21 OFFICER, 16 NON-COMS AND 5 CUSTOMS). QUERIED AS TO NEXT STEP SUCH AS ASSIGNMENT OF EXPERT, OSMAN CONFIRMED THIS WAS INTENTION BUT QUOTED AFGHAN PREFERENCE FOR SCANDINAVIAN OR EASTERN EUROPEAN EXPERT ("NEUTRAL" AS HE EXPLAINED IT) RATHER THAN A GERMAN ADVISER. HE STATED THAT HOST GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE PROVIDED WITH LIST OF NAMES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE EXPERT.
- 5. ADCM RAISED QUESTION OF STOPPING FALL POPPY PLANTING IN HELMAND. OSMAN POINTED OUT SENSITIVITY TO SUCH ACTION ESPECIALLY AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTION OF DAUD GOVERNMENT. ADCM EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE THIS ACTION WOULD HAVE IN US AND ELSEWHERE ESPECIALLY ON PROPOSED DONORS. OSMAN LISTENED CAREFULLY TO ADCM'S EXPOSITION, SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND SIGNIFICANCE BUT MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT OTHER THAN TO EMPHASIZE DIFFICULTY OF PRESENT GOVERNMENT TAKING UNPOPULAR STEPS IN ANY REGION. (FYI: WE BELIEVE OSMAN FULLY UNDERSTOOD SIGNIFICANCE THIS EXCHANGE AND WILL REPORT SUBSTANCE TO HIS GOA CONTACTS. AT TIMES IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ASCERTAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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WHETHER OSMAN WAS SPEAKING AS AN AFGHAN OR AS A UN OFFICIAL. IN EITHER EVENT, WE DECIDED STRONG APPROACH THIS TOPIC WOULD BE BENEFICIAL IN VIEW HIS REPORTED CLOSENESS PRESENT GOVERNMENT. END FYI.)

6. AS INDICATED ABOVE, WE PREFER WITHHOLD COMMENTS ON IMPLICATIONS GOA SHIFT NARCOTICS CONTROL FUNCTION FROM MINJUS TO MININT; HOWEVER, WE CONCUR WE MUST FOLLOW AFGHAN DECISIONS AND CONSIDER

ANY BI-LATERAL USG INPUT BEING AVAILABLE TO WHATEVER MINISTRY GOA
STATES WILL BE ITS NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT ARM. WE WILL COMMENT
FURTHER AFTER SCHEDULED MEETING WITH MFA OFFICIALS.
LEWIS

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